

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

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TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 222678

EXDIS TOSEC 376

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ME, YO

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE TO TITO

REFERENCE: STATE 222040, 218948, 217505 NOTAL

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S REPLY TO TITO'S
LETTER OF NOVEMBER 3 ON MIDDLE EAST CRISIS. AMBASSADOR
SHOULD DELIVER LETTER PRIOR TO PRESIDENT TITO'S DEPARTURE
FOR THE USSR, IF POSSIBLE TO TITO PERSONALLY.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: YOUR LETTER OF
NOVEMBER 3 SETTING FORTH YOUR VIEWS ON THE PRESENT CRISIS
IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE STEPS TO ACHIEVE A LASTING
SOLUTION TO THIS CRISIS HAS BEEN STUDIED CAREFULLY.
BECAUSE OF THE CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS YOU HAVE
MAINTAINED FOR MANY YEARS WITH THE LEADERS OF SEVERAL
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IMPORTANT COUNTRIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE CAREFUL
ATTENTION YOU HAVE GIVEN TO DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA,
YOUR ASSESSMENTS OF THE SITUATION THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN
OF INTEREST.

AS YOU OBSERVED IN YOUR LETTER, YUGOSLAVIA AND THE US HAVE WIDELY DIVERGENT VIEWS CONCERNING THE ORIGIN AND NATURE OF THE PRESENT CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IN LIGHT OF THESE DIFFERENCES, MR. PRESIDENT, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR ME TO OUTLINE US AIMS SINCE THE

OUTBREAK OF THE RECENT ROUND OF FIGHTING IN THE AREA.

THROUGHOUT THE PRESENT CRISIS THE US HAS DIRECTED ITS EFFORTS TOWARD THE ACHIEVEMENT OF TWO OBJECTIVES: THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AND THE CREATION OF CONDITIONS CONDUCIVE TO PROGRESS THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE. THE US PURSUED THESE OBJECTIVES AT THE UNITED NATIONS AND IN DIPLOMATIC CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT, THE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, AND OTHER INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS.

IN RECENT DAYS WE HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN A MAJOR EFFORT TO CONSOLIDATE THE CEASEFIRE SO THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT TO MOVE ON TOWARDS A MORE PERMENENT PHASE OF NEGOTIATION. IT WAS IN PURSUIT OF THESE GOALS THAT WE CONSULTED WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF EGYPT, ISRAEL AND SYRIA IN WASHINGTON LAST WEEK, AND THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER AND HIS PARTY TRAVELED TO SEVERAL ARAB CAPITALS TO ENGAGE IN PERSONAL TALKS WITH ARAB LEADERS.

AS A RESULT OF HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT AND OUR SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS WITH PRIME MINISTER MEIR, THE GOVERNMENTS OF EGYPT AND ISRAEL HAVE REACHED A SIX POINT AGREEMENT TO STABILIZE THE CEASEFIRE AND EXCHANGE ALL PRISONERS OF WAR. THIS AGREEMENT, IMPLEMENTATION OF WHICH IS TO BE WORKED OUT BY EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES UNDER UN AUSPICES, REPRESENTS A MAJOR STEP FORWARD IN ESTABLISHING
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FAVORABLE CONDITIONS FOR NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES CONCERNED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 338. FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS TO BE FRUITFUL, A FIRM DEDICATION AND A WILLINGNESS ON THE PART OF ALL PARTIES TO SEEK ACCOMMODATIONS ON THE DIFFICULT AND INTRACTABLE ISSUES WHICH HAVE DIVIDED THEM WILL BE REQUIRED.

I AM HOPEFUL, THEREFORE, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL JOIN WITH THE US AND OTHER INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS IN ENCOURAGING THE PARTIES CONCERNED TO APPROACH SUCH NEGOTIATIONS IN A SPIRIT OF GOODWILL AND ACCOMMODATION AND TO AVOID ACTIONS

ELSEWHERE WHICH WOULD NOT BE CONDUCIVE TO A FAVORABLE
NEGOTIATING ATMOSPHERE. SINCERELY, RICHARD M. NIXON.
END OF TEXT.

3. IN PRESENTING LETTER, AMBASSADOR SHOULD DRAW ON LAST
TWO PARAGRAPHS TO STRESS THAT US WILL EXPECT TITO TO

USE HIS INFLUENCE WITH HIS ARAB FRIENDS TO ENCOURAGE
THEM TO ENGAGE CONSTRUCTIVELY IN THE NEGOTIATING
PROCESS AND TO REFRAIN FROM ACTIVITIES (ENCOURAGING
SECURITY COUNCIL MEETINGS, ETC.) WHICH COULD COMPROMISE
OR COMPLICATE NEGOTIATIONS. RUSH

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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